

TITLE IV-B ADVISORY GROUP

The Title IVB Advisory Group was established to fulfill regulations of the Social Security Act. The mission and purpose of the Advisory Group is to give input into the development of the Title IVB plan and to provide feedback on the status of children and families and the performance of child welfare service systems. The group consists of representation from:

- School of Social Work, University of Missouri
- Family Court Judges and Juvenile Officers
- Citizens for Missouri's Children
- Prevent Child Abuse Missouri
- Foster Care and Adoption Association
- Department of Mental Health
- Children Justice Act Task Force – (Legislative sub-committee)
- Missouri Public Safety Commission
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Office of State Court Administration
- Parents as Teachers National Center
- Department of Health and Senior Services
- Missouri Juvenile Justice Association
- Division of Medical Services
- State Youth Advisory Board
- Children's Division Staff

Each member of the advisory group received a copy of the 2005-2009 CFSP and 2000-2004 APSR for review and comment. General comments included appreciation for the opportunity to review the state plan. Suggestions included updates to reflect FY 2004 data, legislation passed in 2005 and budget cuts/reduction enacted in 2005. Specific program related suggestions included progress of the CFSP including adding information about custody diversion, voluntary placement agreements, performance based contracts, renewed efforts for accreditation, and the state's updated Program Improvement Plan. These have been incorporated into our plan.

Many of the reviewers found the CFSP to be lengthy, but discovered it to be extremely informative. They found common messages of partnership and quality assurance, as is the mission to protect children from abuse and neglect and to ensure safety, permanency and well being for Missouri's children.

A draft copy of the 2005 APSR and update to the 2006 CSFP was available for a two-week public comment period from June 9 – June 22, 2005 on the Department of Social Services website. No comments were received from the Internet posting.